

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD
JANUARY 22, 2002**

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. Present were Chair Geri Clark, Norman Blanco, Jason Curtis, Brian Hierholzer, Katherine Montgomery, and Denis Shaw. Also in attendance were Assistant Town Clerk Barbara McDaniel and Clerk Nina Valdez recording the meeting. Vice-Chair Wayne Arnold, Lynette Brown, Richelle Gilhauley, Kitty Preziosi, and Zel Veesser were absent.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 27, 2001

Mr. Shaw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtis, to accept the minutes of November 27, 2001. In a voice vote, with Vice-Chair Arnold, Ms. Brown, Ms. Gilhauley, Ms. Preziosi, and Ms. Vesser being absent, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 6-0)

Chair Clark read a letter from Vice-Chair Arnold explaining his absence from this meeting.

3. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Blanco suggested an item be added to the agenda for excusing Board members of their absences. Ms. McDaniel explained there was a procedure already in place to handle absences. She stated that after the third consecutive absence, a letter was sent to the Board member, and an additional letter would be sent with stronger verbiage if two additional absences occurred. Chair Clark suggested that this issue be added to the next agenda under New Business.

Chair Geri Clark asked if there would be any objections to adding item 3.4 Study Circles to the agenda, and to move item 3.4 forward. There were no objections from the Board.

3.4 Study Circles

Sherman Mosely, Community Relations Coordinator from the Broward County Commission, Human Rights Division, thanked the Board for its support during his illness. He questioned the Board's involvement with Study Circles and whether it would expand beyond the City's involvement or individual's involvement into the project he was working with in the school system where trained facilitators would be working with students. Chair Clark felt that she did not want this Board to become involved with the school system as facilitators.

Chair Clark inquired about the dates of training for the facilitators and stated that she was interested in being trained as a facilitator.

Mr. Mosely suggested that a Study Circle be established so the Board would be able experience a Study Circle. He stated that he would keep the Board advised of when the trainers would be in the area for the Board's participation as facilitator trainees.

Mr. Mosely explained what role a facilitator would play in a Study Circle and the techniques employed. He stated that the Study Circle would be a small group setting for approximately three sessions about a specific topic or subject. Mr. Mosely explained that the Study Circle would be an exercise that would be open-ended, but it would be not goal oriented. The Board would be there only to hear what the other person thought about an issue so that the

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD
JANUARY 22, 2002

Board could effectuate a more open democratic thought process. He suggested that in between sessions, the individuals should discuss the information with relatives, friends, or associates to receive feedback so that when the Board returned for the next session, the Board would have more information or questions from the feedback received. Then after the series of sessions, the Board would think about how the information would be applied to the Board's future actions. Study Circles would give the opportunity to deal more effectively with individuals.

Ms. McDaniel asked if the Board could be given an opportunity to observe a Study Circle in session. Mr. Mosely replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Mosely stated that the resource center had designed materials for the Study Circle workshops in the areas of diversity, police community relations, race relations, and youth issues.

The Board discussed the four areas of the Study Circles and determined that diversity would be the area in which the Board would be interested in due to the wide variety of issues it would cover.

Discussion ensued regarding the Board having a Study Circle Committee and whether the Sunshine Laws would permit a Committee to be formed. Ms. McDaniel stated that it would have to be reviewed with Town Attorney Monroe Kiar to determine if any of the Board members could meet without a quorum on a fact finding mission. Chair Clark stated that a Committee would be determined if Mr. Kiar approved it.

Chair Clark asked Mr. Mosely to determine a Study Circle schedule for February 2002 and give the Board some dates. Mr. Mosely advised that the Study Circle would consist of four sessions, two hours each, and they could be held two days in one week, or it could be broken up into a weekly basis. Ms. McDaniel advised the Board that the Study Circle would need to be recorded. Ms. Clark suggested that an abbreviated Study Circle be held at a future Board meeting due to time constrictions with the Board members.

Chair Clark questioned the rules regarding facilitators and Study Circle groups. Mr. Mosely stated that the ground rules would be set before a Study Circle would begin to ensure the meeting would run smoothly. Mr. Mosely stated that a facilitator would have a list of items that would be discussed by the Study Circle.

Chair Clark would seek the approval from Mr. Kiar and Town Administrator Tom Willi whether or not one or more Board members could attend a Study Circle without having it recorded.

Chair Clark stated that she would like to add Study Circles to the next agenda. She believed the Board would have received a legal opinion from Mr. Kiar regarding Board members attending a Study Circle without a quorum by then. Chair Clark also requested Mr. Mosely bring future dates of Study Circles to be held in other cities on any topic. Mr. Mosely stated that the City of Ft. Lauderdale was working on a forum for a Study Circle in the near future and he would keep the Board informed of the information. He also advised that he would keep Chair Clark informed about the information for the Study Circle on February 26th.

Chair Clark informed the Board about a discussion that would be taking place on January 23rd, that Jeff Gorley from the Broward County Commission, Human Rights Division

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD
JANUARY 22, 2002

was organizing regarding establishing a Police Review Board for police department activity issues Countywide. Mr. Mosely stated that Representative Chris Smith would be submitting legislation to the State Legislature suggesting a uniform review system for all 67 counties. Chair Clark stated that she would try to attend the meeting and bring information to the next Board meeting.

Ms. McDaniel advised Mr. Mosely that she could distribute any information regarding Study Circles to the Board members if he would have the materials to her by February 19th, so the Board members could examine it before the next meeting.

3.1 Cultural Affairs

Chair Clark stated that the Girls Scouts would not be able to march in the Orange Blossom parade, but they did offer the use of their flags. If there were no objections from the Board, Chair Clark would contact Western High School to inquiry about their availability to participate in the parade with their students involved in their flag program. There were no objections from Board. Chair Clark further stated that in the event that Western High would not be available, Chair Clark would contact area dance schools to see if they would be available with their costumes.

Ms. McDaniel advised the Board that Public Works Director Bruce Bernard had inquired if the Board was using the Town's float, who would be decorating the float, and what the theme would be. Chair Clark responded the Board would be using the Town's float in the Orange Blossom Parade, and that it was generously offered to the Board by Town Administrator Tom Willi. The Board decided that the theme for the float would be "Bringing Davie Together." The Board would like to have a replica of the world on the float provided by Public Works if possible. Ms. McDaniel advised that the float would hold approximately ten people, and she would check with Mr. Bernard about a flat world being created out of wood.

3.2 Community Outreach

Chair Clark informed the Board that the magnets had been ordered and would be ready for the February 26th Board meeting. The purpose for the magnets would be for distribution at various Town events in order to let the public know about the Board. The magnets were generously donated by the Town's Administration Department. The Board discussed other avenues of advertising to the public about the Board such as banners and buttons.

3.3 Content of Davie Community Relations in Davie Update

Chair Clark stated that Ms. Preziosi was working on the article for the Davie Update. Ms. Valdez responded that Ms. Preziosi was in contact with the Special Projects Department in order to meet their deadline for the Davie Update, and would bring the article to the next Board meeting.

Chair Clark advised that she would contact Special Projects Director Bonnie Stafiej to request that the Board have a dedicated area in the Davie Update with Board's phone number, the background of a world, and a statement to capture the meaning of the Board.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD
JANUARY 22, 2002

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Telephone Action Requests

The Board discussed the memorandum from Ms. McDaniel regarding the Telephone Action Request forms. There were as follows:

Chair Clark spoke about James Anderson who had an issue with the Police Department and was listed on the November 27th, Telephone Actions Requests, and that she would follow up on his issue to see if it had been resolved.

1. Kim Hermelyn - The new Town Engineer Larry Peters was assigned to this matter and was currently reviewing the Hiatus Road Corridor in this area to determine if proper easements exist, as well as funding, for a sidewalk. Chair Clark advised that this matter would be on the next agenda in order to track the issue.
2. Anonymous - Drug activity on SW 9th Street- The information was forwarded to the Police Department's Special Operations Unit. Police Chief John George has advised that the Department does not report on drug activity investigation.

Mr. Curtis spoke regarding this area and stated that he had previously gone into the area to see what kind of activity was taking place. He stated that there was drug activity, but the police were also patrolling the area.

3. Ann Schnitzer - Mr. Curtis explained that Ms. Schnitzer made a complaint regarding her neighbor not taking care of horses on their property, and having loud parties late at night. Officer Leaf from the Davie Police Department had investigated the complaint and advised there was no evidence to support charges of neglect at this time. Officer Leaf advised that the case will remain closed pending evidence of neglect. Mr. Curtis being familiar with horses, agreed with Officer Leaf, as he was on the property in question and saw the horses, and felt their weight was adequate. Further discussion ensued and this matter would be monitored by the Police Department and by the Board. The Board decided that a letter would be sent to Ms. Schnitzer informing her of the results of the investigation, and to let her know the situation would be monitored.
4. Norm Blanco - No update as response was received on January 14th. The Board discussed Mr. Blanco's complaint regarding a neighbor's dog's continual aggressive behavior, and the dog bite of an elderly lady. He further stated that the neighbor complained that when the officer responded to the dog bite incident, he felt the officer did not do enough to have the dog removed, which led to a second incident where the police were called for a disturbance between neighbors over the same dog.

Chair Clark questioned the procedures followed when the police are confronted with an animal bite problem. Mr. Shaw responded that the police were required to bring the problem to the attention of Animal Control. In addition, if the Police Department

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD
JANUARY 22, 2002

had an active community policing officer for that neighborhood, the Police Department could have followed up on this problem through the report that should have been written. Mr. Blanco responded that his neighborhood had been assigned several officers in the past and felt there was no continuity.

Ms. Montgomery questioned the Code regarding the leash laws for dogs. Mr. Blanco responded that he was advised by Chief of Police John George that there was a Town, County, and State law that states that dogs cannot run loose, and confirmed that he had seen the dog loose on numerous occasions. Mr. Blanco advised that he had spoken with Lieutenant Scott McInerney who would investigate the report, and if he found any information, he would have an officer attend tonight's Board meeting. Mr. Blanco also stated that Lieutenant McInerney advised him that Animal Control should have been called if there was a bite.

Chair Clark responded that the Board would send Chief George the following questions regarding the dog bite incident:

- a. Was a report made by the officer who responded to the dog bite incident?
- b. What were the proper procedures to be followed for animal bites, and were the procedures followed in this matter?
- c. What was the officer's name who responded to the scene of the dog bite?

Mr. Curtis stated that he believed there was a law in Davie that an owner with a first time offense of violating the leash law without incident would receive a warning, they would receive a ticket the second time, and the dog would be taken the time third.

Mr. Blanco stated that the woman who was bitten was taken to the hospital and received stitches. He also stated that there was another incident where the same dog bit another woman, but he did not know if a report was made on that incident.

Ms. McDaniel inquired to Mr. Blanco if he would like this matter referred to the Town's Code Compliance Division. Mr. Blanco responded that he was in favor of that. He stated that he would invite one of the family members to the next Board meeting because the woman who was bit, does not speak English.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Clark introduced Board member Ms. Montgomery's husband, Billy Montgomery. Mr. Montgomery commented that the Board's discussion was good.

Chair Clark introduced the store manager from Wayne Arnold's Royal Castle, Hudson Hall and his wife, Karen. Mr. Hudson enjoyed the meeting and listening to the discussion on the various items on the agenda, particularly Mr. Mosely's presentation.

6. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD
JANUARY 22, 2002

Mr. Blanco referred to the tour the Board took on November 10th, and to Mr. Curtis' suggestion of the Board inviting the owner of the Silver Oaks Trailer Park to a future Board meeting to discuss the condition of the park.

Mr. Blanco also stated that he felt that there were not enough women in director's positions in the Town, and would like the Board to invite the Mr. Willi to a future Board meeting regarding this matter.

Chair Clark discussed this issue further due to a letter received from a woman who had applied to the Town, but was not hired. The woman felt discriminated against because of her nationality. Chair Clark stated that she felt there was a great diversity of nationalities of employees in the Town. She also stated that since this woman had written her personally, she felt that the Board could invite her to the meeting that Mr. Willi would be attending to discuss his hiring practices. Ms. McDaniel responded to the Board with her experience in hiring and interviewing for the Town Clerk's office, there would be a large majority of people who would apply for positions with little or no experience, and then would be offended when they were not hired.

Ms. McDaniel suggested to Chair Clark that people with complaints regarding the Town's hiring procedures should be referred to the Director of Human Resources, Mark Alan. Chair Clark stated that she would respond to the woman in writing to let her know that she would be forwarding a copy her letter to Mr. Alan.

Mr. Blanco stated that the Board needed a representative of the Board that would stress the importance of the Board and getting people to attend the meetings.

Chair Clark stated that she would like to add to a future agenda the following items: invite Mr. Foreman or a representative of Silver Oaks Trailer Park to discuss the condition of the park (April); invite Mr. Willi to the Board to discuss the hiring practices of women (March); prepare a three to five minute presentation, to bring to Council quarterly (March); and a future project for the Board regarding the junk yards in Davie (March).

Chair Clark suggested to the Board that in addition to the magnets the Board would be getting, that a brochure should be worked on to be distributed to the public.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Approved: _____

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD
JANUARY 22, 2002

Chair/Board Member